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Michael J. Colona

State Representative District 80- City of St. Louis

COMMITTEES Member:

Joint Committee on Administrative Rules Select Committee on Judiciary Civil and Criminal Proceedings Energy and the Environment

Property, Casualty and Life Insurance Select Committee on Utilities

September 5, 2015

Mr. Tom Wheeler, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

RE: Proceeding No. 15-149

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

As the State Representative of the 80th District, which includes portions of south St. Louis City, the population base is as diverse as the businesses I represent. However, in my role as a member of the House Select Committee on Utilities, I believe all my constituents would agree that strong, competitive telecommunications infrastructures can assist in bringing about economic development growth; not just for my District, but also for the State of Missouri. In Charter Communications, we have one of those providers. Charter is providing St. Louis City with cable, Internet and telephone services. Many of their video services are in HD and they have a robust Video on Demand product. Charter also provides high quality Internet service. Their slowest Internet speed offered in the St. Louis Metropolitan area is 100 Mbps. Many businesses, health and educational institutions, as well as entertainment venues have benefited from Charter's fast and reliable broadband infrastructure.

Charter has brought jobs to our State, as more than 4000 people are employed with Charter in Missouri. They have for the past few years brought customer care outsourced jobs back to America and our State. Their Customer Care representatives I have found to be courteous and helpful. The Company is also committed to bringing more Time Warner Cable outsourced jobs back home under the New Charter merger. In addition, Charter participates in the community.

Their initiative, Charter Our Community, partners with Rebuilding Together St. Louis to provide funding and volunteers to help rebuild low-income homes. They also provide hundreds of schools in Missouri with free cable service under the Cable in the Classroom program.

The New Charter merger will advance Charter's industry-leading, pro-consumer and probroadband model to other parts of Missouri and the United States. I therefore hope that the Federal Communications Commission will support the New Charter merger.

Sincerely,

Mike Colona

Representative District 80